

Wenatchee Senior Softball
2018 Rules, Regulations and Policies

Revised April 14, 2018

Purpose

This league was formed for those who desire to extend their playing years in the sport of softball, to promote friendships and to offer a form of physical exercise which has rules to reduce the risk of personal injury, so that it can be enjoyed by all.

1. **Organization of the League:** The organization and composition of this league shall be that as defined in the "Bylaws, Polices and Rules" of the Apple Valley Softball Association.

- A. A body to be known as "The Board" shall govern this league.
- B. The Board shall be composed of one (1) at-large member from each team and five (5) Executive Board officers; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Field Coordinator.
- C. The Executive Board officers shall be elected by the membership and will serve for one (1) year, September through August. The current Executive Board officers are as follows:

President: Pete Maxson
3552 Saturday Ave
Malaga, WA 98828
Mobile: 670-1777
Pmaxson724@aol.com

Vice President: Bob Schmidt
1845-30 Maple Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Mobile: 679-0777
Bob.S@MacksLure.com

Secretary: Rod Dofelmire
1305 Bel Aire Dr.
E. Wenatchee, WA 98802
Mobile: 683-3089
rdofelmire72@gmail.com

Treasurer: Greg Alderson
791 Turtle Rock Road
E. Wenatchee, WA 98802
Mobile: 423-1775
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Field Coordinator: Mark Loyd
2456 Grand Ave.
E. Wenatchee, WA 98802
Mobile: 679-8382
mrups007@aol.com

- 1) President:
 - Preside over officer's meetings and Board meetings to conduct league business.
 - a) Mediate all disputes or protests, as necessary.
 - a) Conduct election of officers when election is due.
 - b) Co-signer to checking account, vouchers and/or purchase orders.

- 2) Vice President:
 - a) Assume the duties of the President, when necessary.
 - b) Assist the President with league matters.
 - c) Co-signer to checking account, vouchers, and/or purchase orders.

- 3) Secretary:
 - a) Record minutes at all league meetings.
 - b) Provide team managers with all information, forms, etc., which are needed for league functions.

- 4) Treasurer:
 - a) Collect and account for all funds received by the league.
 - b) Disperse payments as directed by the Board.
 - c) Keep records of all receipts and disbursements.
 - d) Submit records for audit when called for by the President at least once a year.
 - e) Co-signer to checking account, vouchers, and/or purchase orders.

E. Board Parameters:

- 1) The primary responsibility of the Executive Board will be to address disputes and protests which may arise during the regular season. Disputes and protests may be made only by a team manager and may be made to any member of the Executive Board. The dispute or protest (outlining the specifics of the incident) must be in writing or email and must be made within 24 hours of the incident. The Executive Board will meet, (within one week) to review and act on the dispute or protest. The ruling shall be given to the parties involved within 24 hours of that meeting.

- 2) The Board will act on all league business (other than that covered in (1) above) both before, during and after the regular season. A quorum of one-half (1/2) of Team Board members must be present to constitute a legal meeting.

- 3) Rule changes will normally be made during off-season meetings of the Board.

- 4) Board decisions will be affirmed by a majority vote of the members present, including the Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Field Coordinator. The President will only vote to break a tie.

2. **Eligibility & Rosters:**

- A. Men must be at least forty-eight (48) years old and women must be at least thirty-five (35) years old by December 31st of the current year. (Revised 2016). The League shall be comprised of three divisions. In which division a male player will be placed is dependent upon the following criteria and in the following order: (1) age and (2) playing ability. For the 2018 season age brackets for divisions will be: (48-55) (56-61) and (62 and older). All players will automatically be placed in the division corresponding to their individual age unless an exception is granted to the player through an appeal to the "player evaluation committee". Either a player or a team manager may make such an appeal at any time during the year. Note: Any player is allowed to play in a division higher than the one which corresponds to their age without an exception being granted.

- B. A team's roster size may be unlimited. Game rosters or "the batting order" however, may only contain fifteen (15) players. Initially a team will be allowed to field just two (2) players under 50, then, when every team in the division has two players under 50, additional players under 50 may be added to rosters using a "weakest team to strongest team" methodology.

- C. During the season, players may transfer from team to team by letter of petition and approval by the Executive Board (with input from the “player evaluation committee”), the player’s old team, and the player’s desired new team. The petitioner may play with his/her new team immediately upon approval by the Executive Board.
- D. Deposits to secure a team’s participation in league play are due at the date of the March meeting. Such deposits shall be returned at the start of league play. Team rosters are due on the date of the April league meeting. Players can be added any time thereafter. Players must register and pay league fees on the WSS website (www.wensrsoftball.com) and sign “the code of conduct” and “the insurance release form” before being able to play. New players are ineligible to play until this process is complete. (revised 2018) Violations will result in game forfeiture.
- E. Players are allowed to be on the roster of multiple teams. When wishing to be on multiple rosters, and the teams involved are in different divisions, the player must declare the team in the lowest division as his/her “primary team”. When choosing primary and secondary teams, a player may not jump two (2) divisions. Should an event occur wherein both of a player’s teams are scheduled to play at the same time, the player may not play for his/her secondary team unless released by the coach of the primary team to do so. Such players must also pay league fees for both teams.
- F. Board members may conduct roster checks at any time.
- G. All teams shall have a minimum of two (2) players attend the annual “rules clinic” to be held prior to the start of each season. Such attendance is mandatory and failure of a team to provide players in attendance of these clinics will be considered grounds for the league to prevent that team’s participation in league play.

League Play: All games will be played according to the 2017-2018 SSUSA rules, except for those modified or added as follows:

- A. A legal game shall consist of no more than ten (10) nor less than eight (8) roster players on the field. The game will be forfeited if less than eight (8) roster players are present. If both teams have less than eight (8) roster players, the game will be rescheduled. Exception: A team comprised of players, all of whom are over 70 years old, may field eleven (11) players.
- B. A forfeited game may be played for fun and entertainment by borrowing players from the other team.
- C. A non-forfeited game, where a team has eight (8) or nine (9) roster players, may be played using players from the rosters of other teams. The pickup player(s) will be allowed to bat. Pickup players from a higher division **are not** allowed. Also, no team is allowed to field pickup players while players on their roster are present and not playing. The only exception would be if a roster player became injured during that game and was removed from the lineup. Such injured players may not return to that game, or any subsequent game that day, should the team be involved in a double header.
- D. Starting times of all games is as shown on the schedule. Forfeit time for scheduled league games shall be after a five (5) minute grace period. A grace period reduces playing time. No game will be delayed past the five (5) minute grace period to accommodate a late arriving player.
- E. Once the game has begun the pitcher will be allowed three (3) warm up pitches each inning. Infield warm up between innings is not allowed past the time needed for pitchers’ warm ups.
- F. If a player is injured and cannot continue, the player who follows him/her in the batting order will be allowed to bat without an out being assessed against the team while batting.
- G. The use of team uniforms is optional.

- H. Home team will furnish a new game ball and a second ball appropriate for game situations. (Revised 2006)
- I. Batting team will furnish (1) home plate and (1) base umpire. Teams are encouraged to use players who have attended the umpiring clinic for these positions whenever possible. Any disputes arising on the field shall be settled by the two (2) team managers and the home plate umpire. The decision of the home plate umpire will prevail.
- J. Games are limited to no more than seven (7) innings. At the scheduled start time for the game a clock will be set to 55 minutes. When the 55 minute time limit is reached, the inning in play will be completed and one (1) additional inning will be played, which shall be the open inning.
- K. All games played in a division shall count towards division standings.
- L. Use of pitching screen. A team may use a protective pitching screen if they so choose. If the opponent does not wish to use the screen, the protective pitching screen must be removed between innings. The screen may not be closer than 45 feet to the plate and be in line with second base as reasonable possible. If a batted ball strikes the screen, the ball will be a dead ball and will not affect the batter's count. If the ball comes in contact with the screen after the ball has been put into play then the ball will be played as it lies. (2012).
- M. Mercy rule. There will be a 12-run mercy rule for league games. If either team is behind by 12 or more runs at the end of the 5th inning, the game will be over.
- N. Tie Games. The visiting team will be awarded one half (1/2) run at the beginning of each game. In the event of a tie at the end of a regulation game, the visiting team will be declared the winner. (Revised 2005)
- O. A team is permitted two (2) over the fence home runs and is not allowed another until the opposing team hits two (2) home runs. From that point on, neither team can be more than one (1) home run ahead of the other. Any home run in violation of this rule would result in a Dead Ball Single (DBS). All over the fence home runs will be a walk off for all runners on base (Revised 2013)
- P. Substitutions. Unlimited substitution is allowed. A player may return to the field and be removed more than once. Each player in the batting order is entitled to at least three (3) innings, if physically able. If additional players are added to the batting order during a game others players must sit out so that the total number of batter/players does not exceed fifteen (15).
- Q. Pitching Distance. The pitcher's box shall be an area 2ft wide by x 10ft deep located 50ft from home in line with 2nd base. The pitcher is allowed to pitch from anywhere within this box.

4. **Coach / Manager Responsibilities:**

- A. The winning team is responsible for reporting weekly game results to the league statistician. Reports can be submitted via phone, email or via a link provided at www.wensrsoftball.com. The Secretary/Treasurer will furnish contact information and instructions.